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Vol 51 | Issue #1

January 15 - February 28, 2025

Serving Arizona Members of
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That They
Might Have Joy!

ON THE COVER

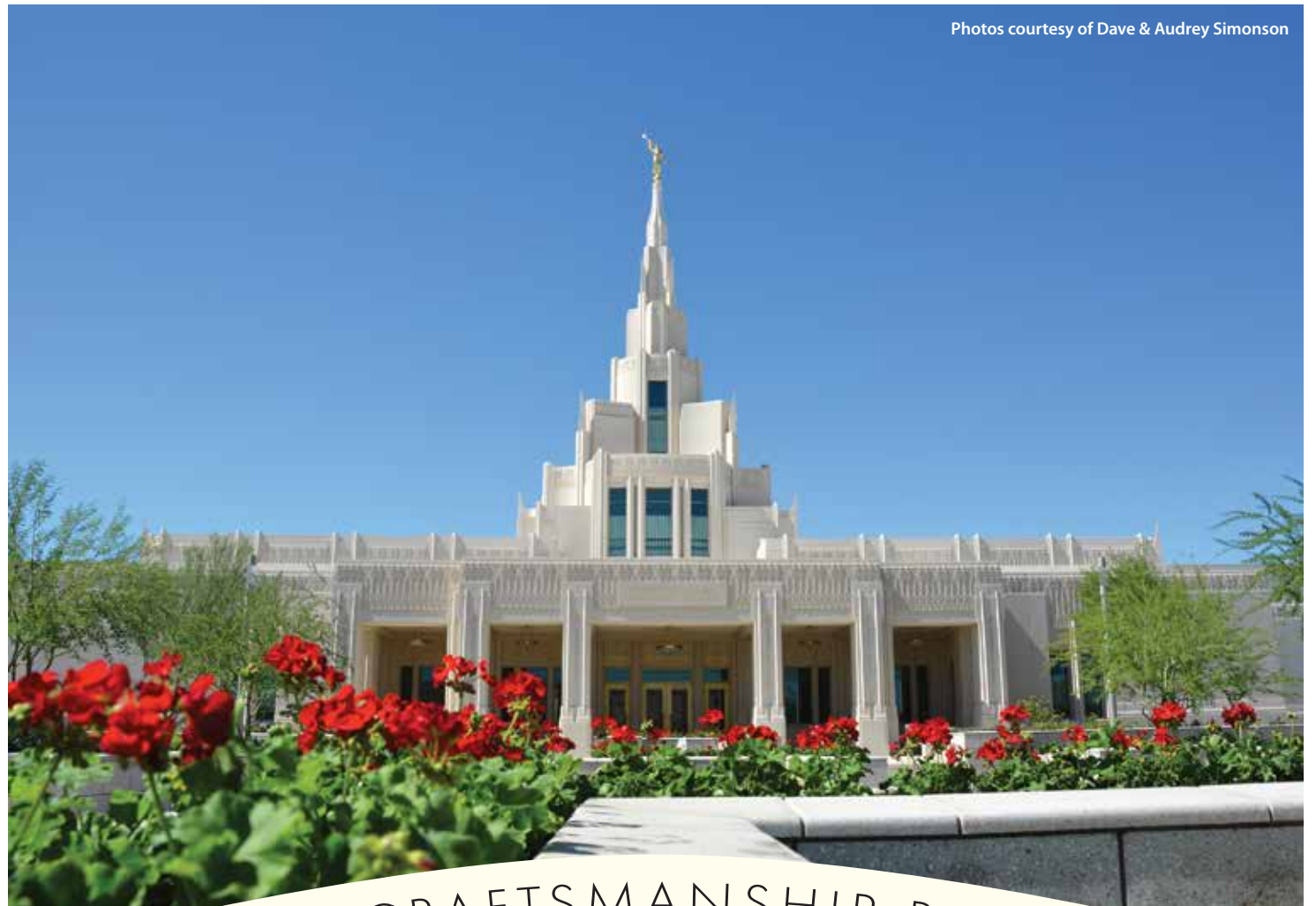
London Lines enjoys a Phoenix area YSA Conference.

Photo by Robin Finlinson

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Photos courtesy of Dave & Audrey Simonson



FINEST CRAFTSMANSHIP POSSIBLE Phoenix Arizona Temple Celebrates Its

10TH ANNIVERSARY

By Cecily Condie

Just over 10 years ago, on Sunday, November 16, 2014, Arizona Latter-day Saints joined in a sacred event of praise and celebration, reverently watching from locations across the state as the Phoenix Arizona Temple was dedicated in three sessions. This became the fifth operating temple in Arizona, the 144th in the world. It had been announced on May 24, 2008, by President Thomas S. Monson and would be the last temple he dedicated.

The day before, Saturday, November 15, approximately 4,300 Young Men and Young Women participated in a cultural celebration, sharing their

testimonies and excitement about the temple through music and dance. The dedication and cultural event were preceded by a public-invited open house, held Friday, October 10 through Saturday, November 1, which allowed thousands to tour the temple and not only see the fine workmanship, but understand more about the purpose of temples.

At the time, Elder Kent F. Richards, Executive Director of the Temple Department, said, Temples “are built to the needs of the area and using the finest craftsmanship possible.” For the Phoenix Temple, that fine craftsmanship began with a beautiful design by CCBG Architects, Inc., The single-sto-

ry, 27,423 square-foot building has a full basement and an 89-foot, multi-faceted spire. The exterior integral-colored precast concrete bears an aloe stalk and desert tree leaf motif.

Inside, that same motif is seen throughout, including in laser-cut patterns in some of the dark wood. The carvings and all the other woodwork in the temple was by Western Millwork, a Phoenix-based company. Robert McKee, project manager, said no one in his company is LDS. He and his crew felt honored to work on the temple. “You just don’t see buildings like this, with such beautiful design.”

Continued on pg. 5

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Get To vs. Got To

Whilst doom scrolling social media on a recent mid-December day, I stumbled upon a meme that pictured an interminable number of people with the caption THE GYM, TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY! The absurdity of truth to this image is apparent. At the beginning of each year, good intentioned folks, who after gorging themselves on holiday fare and gaining the inevitable pounds from such activity (not me, of course), determine that they have “got to” get into shape! What was missing from this meme was a subsequent image of the same space some few days later, showing a much smaller number of people who “get to” get into shape.

As members of the Church, we are commanded by virtue of The Word of Wisdom (D&C 89) to live a healthy lifestyle. As with all commandments we need help, motivation and goals to achieve what The Lord asks or especially commands us to do. Recall that He directs us as such because He loves us and wants us to be happy. “...men are that they might have joy” (2Ne 2:25). When we are healthy, we experience joy. Conversely, when we are not healthy, we find it difficult being joyful. The Lord wants and needs joyful servants. He needs up to recognize that we “get to” follow His commands.

Something that I “get to” do this time of year is decide upon our cover theme. Last year we featured beautiful desert landscapes. This year, I’ve decided to feature happy people. The cover of this issue is adorned by a young woman attending a recent YSA conference. There is joy on her countenance that inspires and uplifts anyone looking upon her beautiful face. In a world more and more in commotion (D&C 45:26) happy people are hard to find. Our community has a lot of them and we’ll share a few this year on our cover.

We look forward to your feedback about this issue. You may reach us on our Facebook page (@BeehiveNews), Instagram feed (@the_arizona_beehive), or by sending me an email at BeehiveAdvSales@gmail.com. Let me know what you think, and share any ideas you may have for a future issue.



Cheers to you, our faithful Arizona Beehive Magazine reader, in the coming year. We look forward to joyfully serving you with marvelous Church memberesque (I made that word up - I get to do stuff like that as Publisher) content in 2025.

Thank you for reading.

Michael O'Brien
Publisher

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Members in the area also appreciate the beauty but say they have other reasons for rejoicing at having a temple near. Lynn and Mike Maxfield, formerly of the Peoria Ward, Peoria Stake, having served in the Mesa Arizona Temple for 11 years, are among the many who are grateful to have a temple closer to their home. While Lynn no longer is physically able to serve in the temple, she said in 2014, "It's hard to list all the blessings. Most of all, regular temple attendance brings the gift of peace. Attend one time a week and your gift will be peace, I can testify of that. I have experienced it."

Mike, who continues to serve as an ordinance worker says, "Serving in the temple and with the other ordinance workers is the greatest thing that has ever happened to us."

James L. and Leslie Hinton, members of the Watson Lake Ward, Prescott Arizona Stake, say it meant a great deal when the announcement came that the people in Prescott, Prescott Valley, North Phoenix and other outlying areas would have a

temple closer to them. "It was like a dream come true," said Brother Hinton.

Then, as the Hintons were asked to lead the committee to chronicle the history of the Phoenix Temple and its construction, they saw even more of the blessings and the dedication that went into this effort. In interviewing and compiling the book, now titled "Worthy of All Acceptation," they saw time and again the many examples of people who, in their craftsmanship, their talents, and their service, "there was such a feeling of people making it the best thing they have ever done."

The Hintons, who now serve as ordinance worker, have experienced the same feelings. Sister Hinton recalls that putting the book together was one of the "hallmark experiences in our lives," and "I believe the temple has been such a great blessing to our marriage." Brother Hinton adds, "Our Friday shift we work is one of the highlights of our weeks."



They add that they have seen a tremendous impact in their entire ward, even among those who aren't able to attend, but who do more family history work. "We don't have a testimony meeting here in our ward that our temple isn't mentioned," says Sister Hinton.

Kari Holt, of the Verrado Ward, Surprise Stake, says, "I am so grateful for having a temple close. It has provided so many opportunities to draw our neighbors closer and to serve." Even more, she says, "It offers an opportunity for our youth to foster love for the temple earlier on." Many, she says, serve often in the baptistry or sit on the grounds to feel the peace, solitude and tranquility there.

Elder Todd B. Hansen, former Area Seventy, said, "It's wonderful to have this temple in Phoenix. We invite members to come and partake, to come and step on holy ground, to come and drink deeply of the waters."

My New Year's Resolution is to spend more time with family, spend less money and eat more seafood.

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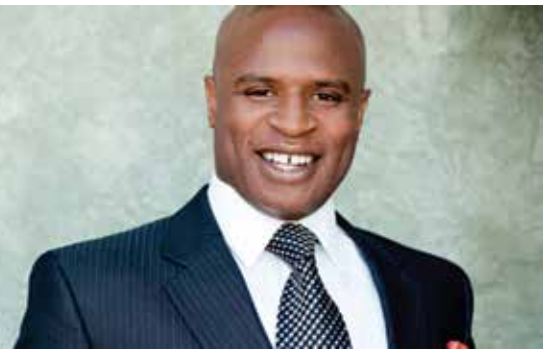
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HOW GREAT THOU ART

International Musical Artist Alex Boyé

Speaks To Youth & Single Adults



By Cecily Condie

All photos courtesy of Alex Boyé

Known by many for his music—having sung with the Tabernacle Choir on Temple Square for eight years, as well as on America’s Got Talent, Fox and Friends, Jimmy Kimmel Live and with many top performers, includ-



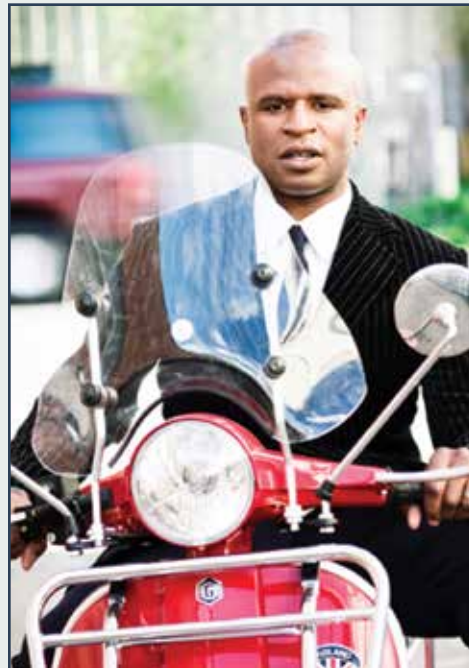
ing Tim McGraw, Justin Timberlake, the Beach Boys and Olivia Newton John—Alex Boyé recently shared with two large audiences in the Phoenix area not only his singing and songwriting, but his understanding of

the gospel of Jesus Christ and his ability to motivate others as well.

Alex Boyé was born in England to Nigerian parents and spent his childhood living in foster care, staying with relatives or mostly taking care of himself. He found The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and joined when he was 16. Later, he served a mission to the England Bristol Mission. In the ensuing years, Brother Boyé has continued to share his faith and testimony in YouTube videos, concerts and firesides.

Dean Pehrson, First Counselor in the Peoria Arizona Stake, said his stake oversees the monthly fireside held for single adults in the Phoenix West Coordinating Council. When Boyé agreed to present a fireside, a devotional was added earlier in the evening for the Young Men and Young Women in the stakes in the Coordinating Council: Buckeye, Glendale North, Glendale, Goodyear, Peoria North, Peoria, Thunderbird Park, Surprise North, Surprise and Surprise West.

Packer Turley of the Litchfield Park Ward, Goodyear Stake, attended the devotional. “Alex was extremely interactive and hilarious whilst touching my heart and many others,” he said. “He



got everyone’s attention with jokes and stories, then proceeded to discuss the crucial topic of identities.”

Jared Peterson of the Liberty Ward, Peoria North Stake attended the earlier devotional. Boyé called him to the stand along with two others. “I was really lucky to be able to do that,” Jared said. However, Jared adds, while Boyé “cracked jokes” and “made it fun,” he focused “on the spiritual side, helping

us remember who we are as children of God.”

Packer agrees, saying, “He helped every individual in that building know that they are a crucial part of the Lord’s work in the Gathering of Israel.”

Brother Boyé told attendees, “The Devil’s job is to get us to forget out identity and who we really are, who you are and who you represent.” He added, “If you feel less than, you’ve forgotten who you are.”

Boyé closed with a resounding rendition of “How Great Thou Art.”

To the Single Adults later that evening, “Boyé talked about how following gospel principles opens doors of love and strength of the Savior,” said Brother Pehrson. “Boyé added that our hearts’ desires come in the Lord’s time frame, not ours ... we need to realize our part and that we can be blessed in His way.”

Brother Pehrson said their overriding spiritual purpose for this, and every, fireside, is: “We want to help prepare people for the Second Coming of the Savior.”

To explore Alex Boyé’s work, visit alexboyé.com.

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Glen Tolman Helping at RootTech 2019.

One feature added several years ago was "Relatives at RootsTech" which is similar to the FamilySearch option of "Relatives Around Me". Participants will be able to see how they are related to all attendees who opt-in for this feature. I have stayed in contact with several second cousins whom I have met at RootsTech. In addition to keynote speakers and classes, the Expo Hall is very informative.

RootsTech began in 2011 with 3000 participants and continued to grow year by year with in-person and remote participants. The ten-year anniversary event held February 26-29, 2020 in Salt Lake City, UT attracted nearly 30,000 people from all over the world. The theme was "The Story of You."

The global pandemic significantly changed RootsTech, beginning with the 2021 event. Participation increased exponentially as it transitioned to a free virtual experience hosted online in 11 languages. It was attended by over 1 million individuals from 242 countries who were able to watch approximately 2,000 genealogical class sessions on-demand taught by experts, archivists and companies. The event has since returned to an in-person experience, held at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, combining with virtual participation from all over the world.

The RootsTech Family Discovery Day on Saturday is always an enjoy-



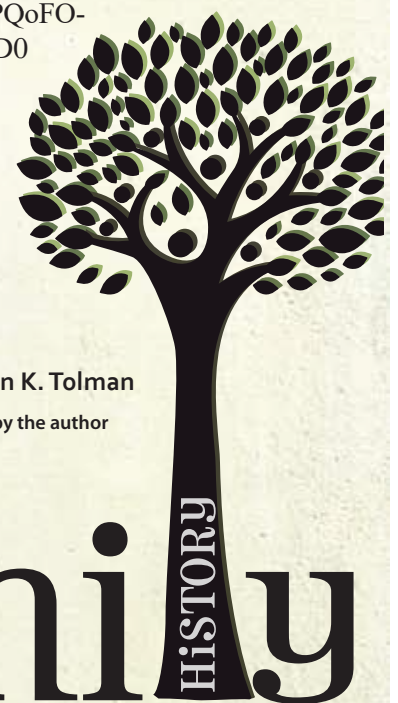
At the Relative Race Booth at RootsTech 2019 with Dan Debenham after winning T-Shirts.

able event. Discovery Day 2024 was planned to feature President M Russell Ballard. He passed in November 2023, but had recorded part of what he was going to present before his passing. His message is found at <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media/video/2024-01-0010-family-discovery-session-2024-president-m-russell-ballard?lang=eng>.

The purpose statement for Family History Department in conjunction

with FamilySearch International is "We create inspiring experiences that bring joy to all people as they discover, gather and connect their family – past, present, and future." Don't miss RootsTech 2025!

Register for the 2025 events planned for March 6-8, 2025 at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registration/>. Online participation is free. There are two in-person registration options; 3-day pass \$129 and 1-day pass \$79. If you haven't attended in the past, make this the year that you begin. You will not be disappointed. See a brief YouTube introduction video at <https://youtu.be/PQoFO-VhCuD0>



By Glen K. Tolman
Photos by the author

NEUROPLASTICITY

Keeping your Mind and Spirit Agile

New year, new goals, new you! While we focus on our goals to take better care of ourselves, our mental health can improve with regular workouts too. Our minds have a special ability – neuroplasticity – which essentially creates new and reorganized connections at any age or phase of life. Just like flexibility in your joints, flexibility in your mind stays strong with practice.

Neuroplasticity impacts memory, learning capacity and speed, and overall mental health. The place we see most is with young children. They pick

up new information like little sponges, and the connections they make between things are unique and new. As we grow up, the novelty drastically drops, and the need for mental flexibility is reduced. However, maintaining neuroplasticity can drastically improve the quality of our lives especially as we continue to age.

Practical Ways to Strengthen Mental Agility

Lifelong Learning: When most things aren't new, it's up to us to seek out the new. Some popular choices include learning an instrument, taking a class, picking up



Learning an instrument

Photo by: Renata Adrienn Uri from Pixabay

a new hobby, or taking up challenging puzzles and games. Like doing exercises in the gym, there's a point of difficulty right where we grow the most.

Prayer and Meditation: Not all positive pathways are like bodybuilding. Others

are regulating and calming. Meditating for even a few minutes daily and allowing our thoughts to freely flow allows for connections and ideas that other-

Continued on pg. 11

Love & Joy Come to You

100-Year-Old Anna Laurene

By Emily Jex Boyle

This fall, Prophet and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Russell M. Nelson, turned 100 years old. Leading up to his birthday he said, “the length of your life is not as important as the *kind of life* that you live.” He added that his prayer is that we will let God prevail in our lives.

One week before President Nelson’s birthday, a local Arizona woman also reached the same milestone. Born in Rexburg, Idaho, Anna Laurene Arnett was honored by family and friends who gathered in Gilbert. Many helped her reach her goal of receiving over 100 birthday

cards and guests left with a homemade dishcloth made with love. Anna agreed to an interview with me. Sitting in her daughter’s home, listening to Anna playfully and gracefully sing from her chair the words to “Happiness” by N. W. Christensen is certainly a highlight of my year.

“My mother taught me that song when I was young,” Anna explains. “When I’d say, ‘Oh, he makes me so mad!’ Mother would say, ‘No, he doesn’t make you mad, he did something you decided to get angry about. Nobody makes you mad, nobody makes you do anything’ and I was pretty disgusted with her answer to

begin with. I was probably in the first grade.” Those who know her agree this song has been a mantra for her life.

Anna began music lessons even before she started school. As a young woman, she wrote beautiful words to her husband-to-be during World War II, some letters arriving at Stalag Luft where he was a prisoner of war. As

Photos courtesy of Kathleen Ethington



100-year-old Anna Laurene.

a homebound teacher, Anna helped pregnant teens finish school. As a music aficionado with a testimony of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, she composed an entire cantata and raised her children exposing them to opera. In her 80s she was a published author and blogger.

Speaking of the blessing of an education, Anna said, “You really can’t afford to not accept a good gift. Sometimes we don’t always do that.” When asked what her goals are now as a

HAPPINESS

by Mr. and Mrs. N.W. Christensen

I am happy today
for the sunshine,

For skies of gray or blue;

For within my heart
is the song of life,

I’ll live! I’ll work! I’ll do!

No cloud can
cast a shadow,

Over courage
such as mine;

And I’ll sing my song
as I go along,

I’ll live! I’ll work! I’ll do!

100-year-old she replied, “I would say, enjoy what comes. If you decide what you want to happen, it probably won’t, but enjoy what comes.”



Anna Laurene as a young woman.



Anna received over 100 birthday cards as part of her 100th birthday celebration this fall.

Neuroplasticity

Continued from pg. 10

wise would be drowned out. Those connections count too. The Spirit shares insights in prayer that have the power to change our world view during such quiet moments.

Healthy Social Connections: Humans are social creatures, and few things are as rewarding and challenging as maintaining relationships. Having a variety of social connections naturally invites mental exercise that improves our neuroplasticity. Picking a perfect gift? Holding space for someone who needs



Photo by Zoltan Matuska from Pixabay

Puzzle pieces

support? Meeting new people and sharing novel experiences? All of that plus friendship and connection.

Physical Exercise: There’s a physiological element to this too. Regular exercise benefits your mental wellness as well as your physical wellness. Positive chemicals within our bodies foster the system that gives you a feel-good reward for all this effort and new things.

Sleep and Rest: Real deep rest cleanses your neural system, flushing stress hormones and giving our neurons the opportunity to make permanent the growth we worked hard for.

One type of neuroplasticity is more intentional. Purposefully focusing on thoughts of gratitude has been known to improve overall optimism. This is like blazing a trail through a thick forest, creating an easier path to travel toward the same goal next time. The effort we put in purposefully selects the connections we want to build in our minds.

As with any new habit, start small. This effort is more effective and enjoyable when it’s fun! The novel and new are a source of wonder and enjoyment. Enriching your life stretches your mind, too.



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PREP YOUR MISSIONARY

By Rauna Mortensen

Communicate Love Through Homemade Missionary Packages

A young elder or sister missionary serving in the field needs lots of support from their family back home! It is an optimal time to communicate your love and respect for them by putting extra thought and effort into homemade gifts for packages. Your service will also be a great way to ease your pangs of missing them. Plan ahead to send some meaningful packages:

- An apron is a very practical gift. You can easily prepare an iron-on transfer with a missionary name badge, and a tie for the elders.
- Personalize a pillowcase with fabric markers, photo transfers, encouraging quotes, love notes, etc.
- For a calendar, if you have enough extended family and/or ancestors who have served missions, you could include pictures from their missions. Help them feel they are part of something grand! Or have a theme for the pictures on each page.
- Likewise, you could prepare a



Photo by Rauna Mortensen

Missionary apron sample.

small flip calendar with the most inspiring quotes from family members' mission journals. Other ideas for flip calendars are quotes about missionary work, your favorite spiritual quotes or scriptures, General Conference quotes, etc. You could intersperse these with simple, funny quotes through the years from toddlers in the family, etc.

- Another idea for inspiring quotes is to type them on pretty backgrounds, roll them up tight and paper clip them into little cylinders, then place in a plastic jar. You could label it "Pick Me Up Jar."
- Christmas has lots of possibilities!
 - Make or buy an advent calendar with nativity figures in little pockets. In each pocket you could also place a candy treat and/or a scripture or quote about Jesus Christ.
 - You could string together a series of small stockings, with each having a letter on the front to spell the word CHRISTMAS. Inside each little stocking, put a card discussing one of the titles of Jesus Christ that

corresponds to that letter:

C—Creator
H—Holy One
R—Redeemer
I—I AM
S—Son of God
T—The Truth & the Way
M—Mediator
A—Anointed One
S—Savior

- In reflecting on how your missionary can be preaching of Christ, you could send a package including tangible items related to the symbols of Christmas.
- For Easter: save an egg carton and gather 12 plastic eggs. Write the numerals 1 through 12 on them, ready for Easter symbols. Inside of Egg #1 place a sacrament cup, #2—3 dimes, #3—piece of rope, #4—piece of soap, #5—red felt, #6—cross made of toothpicks hot-glued together and a small nail, #7--dice, #8—gravel, #9—white

Continued on pg. 23



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Hospice of the Valley RANKED 3RD IN NATION FOR QUALITY CARE

By Debbie Shumway

We are extremely humbled to learn that Hospice of the Valley has been ranked third in the entire country for providing quality care to patients and families. A new study of the 2,700 largest U.S. hospices was recently published in the American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. The study, "Caregiver and Employee Experience Among Big Hospices," looked at three quality indicators: Medicare surveys of families assessing patient care and support; caregiver satisfaction and employee satisfaction ratings.

It is an honor to be so highly regarded by families who have entrusted us to care for their loved ones. This is a true testament to the specialized care our staff provide each and every day. They are passionate about this important work and dedicated to our mission — bringing comfort, dignity and compassionate care to our community.

This comprehensive study also found that even though 74% of the market is dominated by for-profit hospices, the top 10 highest-quality hospices in the nation are all nonprofits. Hospice of the Valley is the

only nonprofit hospice in Maricopa County and has always cared for all in need, regardless of insurance or financial resources. This study shows that caregivers expressed higher satisfaction with nonprofits, and nonprofit hospice employees felt a deeper commitment to delivering exceptional care.

Our clinical teams cared for nearly 28,000 patients and their families last year in Maricopa and northern Pinal counties and Tucson. Since we were founded in 1977, we have continued to expand programs to meet evolving needs and bridge gaps in the health-care system. We are the only Arizona hospice providing in-home primary care for frail and vulnerable patients; in-home supportive care at earlier stages of illness; and hospice care for children and adults in the comfort of home. And our innovative Dementia Care and Education Campus helps improve quality of life for people living with all types and stages of the condition and supports their caregivers. Families can always speak to a nurse 24/7 and they derive comfort in knowing we are there for them — any time of day or night.



Pilar with her nurse.

Photo courtesy of Hospice of the Valley

It has been our privilege to serve our community these past 47 years. We are grateful for the employees who have made us Arizona's leading hospice provider and for the patients and families who choose Hospice of the Valley to walk alongside them during this meaningful time.

We are here to support all those in need. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at (602) 530-6900 or hov.org. Debbie Shumway is executive director of Hospice of the Valley.

Fitting Together

Hoop Dancers Connect Faith With Culture

By Tony Gutiérrez

Terry Goedel and his son Michael have had to jump through hoops throughout their lives in order to connect with their culture — literally.

The Native American father/son champion hoop dancers shared their stories via dance recently at the Mesa Temple Visitors' Center. The Visitors' Center hosted the event as a part of its "Heritage Series" ahead of the national Native American Heritage Month in November. With more than 570 tribes in the United States, Terry said the dancing helps them communicate with each other. Each hoop has red, yellow, black and white, representing the four corners of the earth, as well as the different ethnicities, he added, as he held the hoops together to form a ball.



Champion hoop dancer Terry Goedel teaches fourth-grader Anna Myers how to hold the hoops to represent eagle wings during a presentation.

"This is the story of you and me and how we fit together," Terry, a registered member of the Yakima Tribe who also has Tulalip ancestry.

Typically, the hoop dance tells the story of an eagle growing into maturity, with the hoops being held in a manner to represent wings. Traditionally, dancers had four hoops to represent the four winds but a fifth one was added to be in the center, he said. "That center hoop represented the Great Spirit," Terry, who attends the Spinnaker Bay Ward in Saratoga Springs, Utah, said. "It was a reminder to keep the Great Spirit in the center of our home."

The traditional regalia they wear also tells a story. An image of the Gilbert Temple appears on the back of Michael's regalia to represent where he and his wife married in 2018. Two salmon represent them, while two smaller salmon represent their children. "It's just a good way to represent our faith and talk about families," Michael explained.

Michael shared that as a shy young boy, dancing provided him a way to express himself and gave him



All photos by Tony Gutiérrez

Son and father hoop dancers Michael and Terry Goedel hold their hoops in the shape of a ball at the end of their performance.

confidence. When he went on his mission to Rochester, NY, he discovered that dancing helped him in his efforts. "It was a very good tool to have people come to me rather than me going to them and them rejecting me. They came to me and asked me questions about the hoop dance," he said.

Nancy Aposhian, who is involved with Gathering



Michael Goedel tosses a hoop in the air during a demonstration of the Native American Hoop Dance alongside his father, Terry Goedel.

of Tribes — an organization connecting and supporting non-white Latter-day Saints — came because she saw Michael perform at the Gathering of Tribes event in March. "The one thing I do know from my heart is that we're connecting together," Aposhian, who attends the Del Rio Ward in Chandler, said.

Continued on pg. 22

Our Spirits & Bodies Spiritualized

By Jaylene Garrett

PRE-EXISTENCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL BODIES

Elder M. Russell Ballard taught:

"In the premortal world before we left the presence of Heavenly Father, He warned and cautioned us about new experiences we would have in mortality...Heavenly Father knew and understood."

—Keeping Covenants, Ensign, May 1993

WE HAD TO SECURE OUR OWN BODY EXPERIENCES.

David O. McKay taught:

"Our spirit, which has been around a lot longer than our physical body, has already been successful in choosing righteousness over evil in the premortal realm."

Elder David A. Bednar taught:

"Our physical bodies make possible a breadth, a depth, and an intensity of experience that simply could not be obtained in our premortal estate."

SPIRITUALIZING OUR ETERNAL BODIES

Brigham Young taught:

"... If the spirit yields to the body, [the spirit] becomes corrupt; but if the body yields to the spirit [the body] becomes pure and holy"

—Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Brigham Young [1997], 204-5).

From BYU Women's Conference 2023, "Our Bodies—Essential for Eternal Progression and Joy:"

"The following scripture phrases attach physical attributes in spiritual ways. 'Feeling the Spirit,' 'being encircled in the arms of God's love.' We are invited to 'walk in the meekness of His Spirit' and 'put on the armor of God.' We are warned to 'touch no unclean thing.' The voice of the Lord 'pierces our hearts'.

"...Plus, it is our body and spirit together that participates in ordinances and makes covenants with our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Covenants are so vital...that those of us here on earth must stand proxy in the temple...on behalf of our deceased ancestors.

"It is also clear ...that Christ's saving Atonement had to be carried out in the flesh. It was a necessity, a combined physical and spiritual experience...It was not until and it was only when the spirit Jehovah, who created the world, parted the Red Sea, and had been with the Father from the beginning, was combined with a physical, tangible body as Jesus Christ that His ultimate power was realized."

LIKE THE SAVIOR, WE NEED TO LEARN BY OUR OWN EXPERIENCE HOW TO USE OUR BODIES.

Elder Parley P. Pratt taught:

"the gift of the Holy Spirit ...quickens all the intellectual faculties, increases, enlarges, expands and purifies all the natural passions and affections; and adapts them, by the gift of wisdom, to their lawful use."

—(Key to the Science of Theology, 9th ed.1965)

We are on earth with bodies that need to be spiritualized. In mortality our "right now needs" are much easier to consider than "thinking Celestial." Studying the scriptures, listening to and doing what the prophet counsels us, and practicing Christlike attributes, changes our "right now needs" to the "think Celestial" mindset. As we do these things our bodies become "spiritualized".

Beautiful Things Happen When People Come Together

A Hurricane Cleanup Tale

By Emily Jex Boyle

In the southwest, typhoons and hurricanes bring rain, but not much else. Similarly, in Greenville, South Carolina such weather tends to be uneventful. So as Hurricane Helene approached late last year, the Rowley family didn't give it much thought aside from topping off their cars with gas. *Anna Rowley explains, "We were excited for a day off from school." Her husband, Mike, was out of town for work. She planned a movie marathon with their children, Darby and Boston.

Early the next morning, Anna woke up to unsettling howling winds. She says, "It was the loudest wind I've heard in twelve years." Boston, a junior in high school, says, "I remember waking up with no power, going downstairs and making eggs on the gas stove, and then hearing another tree fall. The

2nd Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints gathered to worship in work clothes, splitting into groups afterwards to serve any in need.

Soon, Helping Hands volunteers gathered to help with cleanup work in their county. Anna and Mike worked in a command center for three days to field work requests and coordinate cleanup efforts by those who traveled to serve. "We felt an overwhelming hope and sense of community blanket the area with the efforts of these volunteers," Anna says.

"The most challenging part of the cleanup was just

Photos courtesy of Anna Rowley



(L to R) Boston and Darby Rowley sitting on one of nine trees that came down in their backyard during Hurricane Helene.

the scale of it," Boston explains, "it took almost three months for us to completely get rid of all of the wreckage in our backyard, and we were doing cleanup work across the upstate for weeks. The best part of it all for me was being able to work with people from my church but also collaborate with other churches in order to make sure people all across the upstate got the help they needed to clean up and recover from the storm." Anna adds,



Mike Rowley.

backyard was unrecognizable with trees and debris everywhere, and we found the chicken coop had been crushed and one of the chickens killed." The Rowleys sheltered at the center of their home until the storm passed.

The damage across the state from the storm was extensive as towering trees crashed down everywhere. As Sunday arrived, families in the Greenville



(L to R) Anna and Darby Rowley.

Continued on pg. 22



Boston Rowley.

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CYBER RESILIENCE

Creating A Secure Digital Environment

By Barbie VanCott

If you are online, you are under threat of all manner of destructive forces unscrupulous people have create to undermine your experience. And your bank account. To protect ourselves and our businesses from such threats, we often need professional cyber security help. JT Haynes has over 15 years as a Global IT Executive and Cybersecurity Leader. His career has been defined by creating secure digital environment that empower businesses. “I’ve built a reputation as a trusted advisor,” Haynes explains. He has done so by developing strategies that align IT infrastructure with business goals.

After years of safeguarding enterprise systems, Haynes noticed a significant gap in the cybersecurity landscape. He recognized that smaller, non-technical businesses lacked the resources and expertise to prioritize

their security effectively. This realization led to the creation of Threat Alliance, a company built to simplify IT and cybersecurity for businesses.

According to Haynes, “Threat Alliance was founded on the principle of ‘Small businesses need cybersecurity access in order to create a healthy economy.’ Our mission is to bring enterprise-grade security to smaller businesses, making it accessible and affordable. We understand the challenges these businesses face—limited budgets, competing priorities, and the misconception that they won’t be targeted. At Threat Alliance, we provide managed IT services with a focus on cybersecurity, offering solutions that protect data, ensure compliance, and enable growth.

“Our tagline ‘Your ally in simple, secure IT’ underscores our commitment to being more than a vendor. We aim to be a trusted partner, offering tailored

solutions that simplify technology and enhance security without adding complexity.”

With the number of cyber threats growing by the moment, what does the future look like for Haynes’ company? “Looking ahead, I envision Threat Alliance creating a nationwide network of small business alliances focused on building cyber resilience. We aim to be a leader in the emerging ‘Compliance as a Service’ space, helping businesses navigate regulatory complexities while strengthening their overall cybersecurity posture.”

Innovation is at the heart of Threat Alliance’s vision. By leveraging tools like artificial intelligence and automation, they are committed to providing advanced, cost-effective solutions that empower smaller businesses to compete in a rapidly evolving digital landscape. Their goal is to eliminate the



Photo: JT Haynes, owner of Threat Alliance

fear of data breaches and operational disruptions, enabling clients to focus on what they do best.

Haynes understands that cybersecurity doesn’t have to be overwhelming. “We see ourselves as an extension of the team of the businesses we serve. We are dedicated to turning today’s challenges into tomorrow’s successes. Whether it’s protecting their data, implementing compliance measures, or streamlining their IT infrastructure, we’re here to help them build a secure foundation for growth.”

JT Haynes and Threat Alliance can be reached at <https://threatalliance.com>

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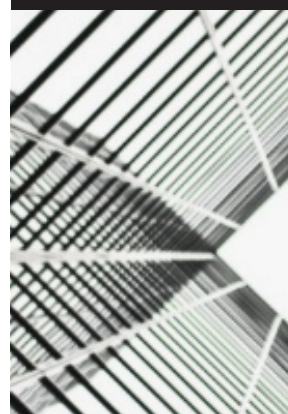
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By Robin
Finlinson

Come Follow Me

This article supports the recommended readings in the manual titled *Come, Follow Me—For Home and Church* for January and February, 2025, comprising Doctrine and Covenants Sections 1-18 and Joseph Smith—History.

The Heavenly Gift of Laws

The Doctrine and Covenants is a bold, clear, “here comes the boom” book of scripture. The word “law” is found in over 70 of its verses, beginning in Section 3, verse 6. There, the Lord corrects His prophet for having momentarily “transgressed the commandments and the laws of God” and “gone on in the persuasions of men.”

The Lord needs a people willing to uphold righteous law in order to establish Zion. “Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself,” declared the Lord in 1834 (D&C 12:6; 105:5).

In 1787, shortly before the latter-day Restoration of the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ commenced, God provided a document necessary for building Zion. That document is the U.S. Constitution. The Lord Himself taught, “[I]t is not right that any man should be in bondage one to another. And for this purpose have I established the Constitution of this land, by the hands of wise men whom I raised up unto this very purpose...” He also

stated that the Constitution “should be maintained for the rights and protection of all flesh, according to just and holy principles” (D&C 101:77-80).

The prophet David O. McKay claimed, “Next to being one in worshiping God, there is nothing in this world upon which this Church should be more united than in upholding and defending the Constitution of the United States!” (“The Enemy Within”)

Speaking directly to the Saints, the prophet Brigham Young said, “Let us unfurl the stars and stripes—the flag of our country; let us sustain the Constitution that our fathers have bequeathed to us in letters of blood...If we sustain it, it will be sustained; otherwise it will not” (*Journal of Discourses*, Volume 6). See also Mosiah 29:25.

The Lord and His Church do not dictate which government candidates to support or reject. Ideally, each person would have the right of citizens of the United States and several other countries to make choices. “The Creator has given agency to every son and daughter of Adam, and He does not infringe upon our agency,” said Brigham Young.



Photo by Robin Finlinson

The Lord Himself established the U.S. Constitution.

The Lord does, however, teach eternal truths, upon which all righteous laws are based. With Him, all things are spiritual (D&C 29:34). And few things affect the spiritual health of a nation quite like its leaders. See JST Jonah 3:1-10 for the surprising example of the king of Nineveh.

The prophet Joseph Smith received direction that “honest men and wise men should be sought for diligently” in government, because “when the wicked rule the people mourn” (D&C 98:9-10).

Concerned that his people might set up wicked individuals above them and suffer, the prophet Moses counseled them, even creating what is perhaps the grandest object lesson in history. He directed half of the 12 Tribes of Israel to stand on the slope of Mt. Gerizim, representing a wonderfully blessed life, and the other half to stand on the slope of neighboring Mt. Ebal, representing a gruesomely cursed life. With an extremely narrow valley between the two hills, the people had a natural amphitheater in which they could hear each other speak.

Moses exhorted the tribes on both hillsides to keep the covenant they entered into to uphold the laws of God, but still indulged their God-given agency—inviting them to “choose” whether they’d be obedient and blessed—or disobedient and cursed (Deut. 27-30; especially 27:8; 28:36, 43-44; 30:19).

The Lord’s covenant people of today covenant with Him during the ordinance of the temple endowment to keep five laws (listed in Elder Dale G. Renlund’s talk at BYU on March 5, 2024).

God’s laws are an enormous gift. His prophets call for everyone to repent, be baptized and receive them. Afterward, daily repentance involves committing all our “might, mind and strength” to keeping them (D&C 11:20).

By combining that desire and determination with the grace and transformative power of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, we can qualify to live with Him and our Heavenly Father, who keep all righteous laws perfectly and therefore live in perfect happiness.

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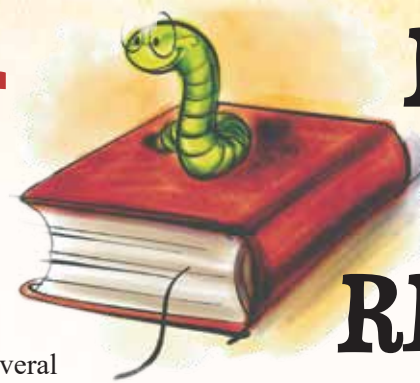
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The Extraordinary Lady Flyer

Beehive BOOK REVIEW



Lady Flyer is the true story of the remarkable life of the first woman in the world to fly combat planes.

Author, Heather B. Moore says, “In *Lady Flyer*, readers meet Nancy Harkness Love, a trailblazer in aviation, who discovered her passion for flying at just sixteen. Nancy breaks down barriers for women pilots, particularly during World War II. She was a strong advocate for women in aviation, promoting programs like WAFS and WASPS, which enabled female pilots to transport aircraft for the military.”

The book begins with Nancy visiting France as a young girl. “Nancy had the experience of watching the landing of Charles Lindbergh in Paris

when he completed the first nonstop Trans-Atlantic flight. I knew it had to be an impressionable moment for her, and even though I’d have to time-jump to the next chapter, I decided to capture this event in Chapter One,” says Moore.

Writing a book of this magnitude took an incredible amount of time. Moore says she conducted 100-120 hours of research before she started writing.

She visited the National WASP WWII Museum in Sweetwater TX and two WWII Aviation Museums in Dallas. She also visited “Hill Aerospace Museum at AFB, Utah where she connected with Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Carl Williams Shepard



Author Photo by Brekke Felt
Author Heather B. Moore.

Jr., who read the flying scenes,” says Moore.

Moore found several things fascinating about Nancy Harkness Love. “From the moment that Nancy paid to ride in a barnstormer plane, she was hooked on flying. She was only 16, but she knew what she wanted to do for the rest of her life, and she made it happen. Even when her family could no longer afford flying lessons, Nancy found ways to earn money by working at an airfield. Despite having some harrowing experiences while flying, including forced landings, and a crash, she persevered and continued with her passion.”



By Cindy R. Williams

Moore adds, “Nancy was patient and methodical. She learned everything she could about planes and was very careful in her preflight inspections. WWII enthusiasts, pilots, and general history lovers will certainly enjoy this book.”

Moore is a best-selling author. Her

books are available wherever books are sold.

BY HEART

A Case For Memorizing Scriptures

By Allison Beckert

Do you remember your scripture mastery verses? Or the verses from missionary lessons back before Preach My Gospel? These days the idea of memorization has fallen out of regular use. With phones and the internet everywhere available, why memorize when you can search and look up with a click or two? Or even just asking out loud with the newest AI aid? This is, however, a valid and powerful tool for studying the scriptures.

How did memorizing scriptures become such a big part of church education for so long? Memorization, or knowing the scriptures “by heart” is deeply rooted in Christianity as a whole, and during the Restoration this practice was considered the height of faithfulness. With the development of the articles of faith in the 1850s and their inclusion in the Pearl of Great Price in 1880, we had a deliberately collected set of

declared beliefs that all members could memorize and share.

The impact of this can be traced to the Scripture Mastery Program. Rolled out in the 60s, this included a list of curated scriptures that highlighted essential doctrines and principles that would support the Church curriculum for Seminary and Institute. These were taught in Seminary classes, blocked out for the year using the body of scripture being studied.

In 2012, the Church revitalized and refocused the list of scriptures into Doctrinal Mastery. 100 verses and their citations that are organized into pillar doctrines of the Restored Gospel. There have been some edits in the last few years, but the focus of doctrines with supporting scriptures has continued.

For some of us, we haven’t memorized a scripture and its reference since our Seminary days. This method, while emphasized for school age learners, is just as valuable for anyone looking to

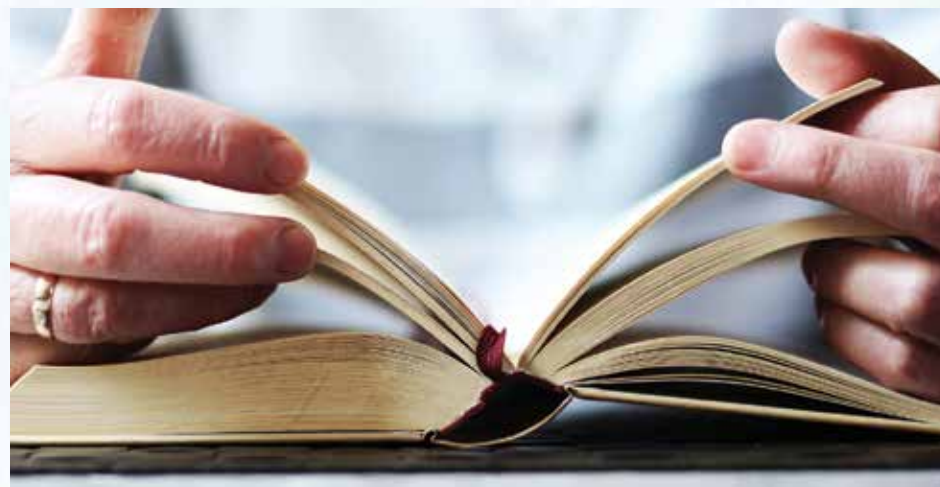


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widen their study habits. Elder Richard G. Scott made the point that using the exact words of scriptures has a power. And we will find value in committing to memory those passages that are meaningful and powerful to us.

If you’re interested in giving memorization a try, you can start with scriptures meaningful to you or find ones using the doctrinal Mastery list available through Gospel Library.

Make Memorization Work For You

Audio visual tools: Record the verse aloud or find a recording you like. Listen to it regularly. Or use picture cues and cards – several skilled semi-

nary teachers over the years have created and made clever and amusing cue cards available online.

See and Remember: Print or write out the verse and pin or post it where you will regularly see it in your home. When you see it, read it aloud or to yourself.

Routine: Like any study, memorization benefits from routine. Set a time to work on your list, or on each verse you’re working on.

Competition: If you do this with others, make it into a game. Race to recall the scripture references, play a fill in the blank game, etc.

Connected Through Christ

By Robin Finlinson

ARIZONA Young Single Adults GATHER IN MESA

Over 1,000 Young Single Adults from at least seven states converged at the Arizona YSA Conference November 14-17 in Mesa. The theme: Connected through Christ. They were taught, inspired and entertained by numerous talented LDS professionals, including violinist Jenny Oaks Baker, vocalist Bryson Jones, and hilarious professor Hank Smith. The fun and spiritual smorgasbord continued with Elder Jonathan S. Schmitt, General Authority Seventy, and Elder Jay D. Andersen, Area Seventy. The conference included speed dating, dances, lawn games, breakout classes and more!



All photos by Robin Finlinson



Perspective & Gratitude

JustServe Director Sara Anderson



Sara and Brenda.

As a JustServe Director in Mesa, Sara Anderson has made it her mission to connect her faith, family, and community through service. Partnering with A New Leaf through JustServe, she helps develop and post volunteer projects, providing opportunities for others to give back. One memorable project arose when her son organized a group date. Instead of a typical outing, they planned a scavenger hunt to collect and assemble snack bags for those in need. “They spent three hours putting together these bags,” she recalls. “It was a fun and meaningful way to bond

while making a difference.”

For Sara, service is deeply tied to her faith. “When Jesus says in Matthew 25, ‘Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me,’ it reminds me that serving others is serving God,” she explains. This belief drives her commitment to involve her children in service projects, teaching them compassion and the value of helping others.

Her role with JustServe has transformed how she views giving back. “JustServe makes it so easy to connect with organizations like A New Leaf,” she says. “Volunteering has given

me a sense of purpose and helped me build strong relationships.” Some of her most meaningful experiences have come from serving others, reinforcing the importance of balancing faith, family, and community.

She’s also passionate about the benefits of volunteering, both for individuals and families. “Serving addresses depression, anxiety, and even health challenges. It gives perspective

and gratitude,” she notes. As a mother of five sons and a daughter, she strives to raise her children to be compassionate and service-minded. “Teaching them to care for others is core to their education and character.”

Through her work, Sara inspires others to embrace service as a path to connection, growth, and faith in action.



Volunteering at Paz group.



Serve Your Local Community!

A New Leaf is looking for kind people like you to make an impact in our local AZ community through JustServe

You can find exciting opportunities to serve your local community on A New Leaf's JustServe page today. Find projects such as:

- Preparing meals at a local homeless shelter
- Putting together hygiene kits for homeless families
- Painting murals at local community centers

We believe people like you can truly make the world a better place - one person, one project, one hour at a time. Only by taking action today will our community move towards a better, brighter future! Join us today!

Visit: JustServe.org/ANewLeaf

By Katherine Ogden

Photo by
Robert Ogden

Allison
Ellsworth
sharing her
Ellsworth
family
binder.

Expressing Gratitude

Journaling Answered Prayers, Tender Mercies, and Small Miracles

The Ellsworth family began a unique family tradition in 2007. It's a notebook entitled "Answered Prayers, Tender Mercies and Small Miracles" and they've been contributing to it every year since.

The idea for the notebook started to formulate after listening to David A. Bednar's "The Tender Mercies of the Lord"

He had heard a voice that was not his own, saying, "I'm not giving you these experiences for yourself. Write them down."

"I remember that I put out the invitation to the kids to do the write-ups shortly before that second talk was given," shared Diane Ellsworth. "So, I felt like the Spirit had guided me and then confirmed the decision to me to do it. I was also motivated by thinking that one day our grandchildren would derive strength from reading this collection when facing their own faith challenges. I knew that collectively they could build faith, both in the year they were written and in the future for posterity."

So it began, with Doug (Dad), Diane (Mom), oldest sister Emily, Allison, brother Jeff, and younger siblings Kristi, Nori and Rachel. Rachel was still at home, and several were in college, but most everyone came back home for Christmas, and the stories were placed on their breakfast plates on Christmas morning.

Each family member asked themselves those same questions that President Eyring asked: "Did God send a message that was just for me this year? Did I see His hand in my life or the lives of my children? I will do that.

And then I will find a way to preserve that memory for the day that I and those that I love, will need to remember how much God loves us and how much we need Him. I testify that He loves us and blesses us, more than most of us have yet recognized."

It's an all-year project, with the understanding that stories are "due" around Thanksgiving time.

"I know the purpose behind this is to help each of us see God's hand in our lives," shared Allison. "And it has done just that as I reread stories I'd forgotten, reminding me of the hand of the Lord in my life and in my families' lives."

With the Ellsworth parents currently serving as missionaries in the Louisiana Baton Rouge Mission, this year's additions to the notebook will more than likely be distributed electronically throughout the family.

"I believed in the power of expressing and teaching gratitude. It hasn't been easy, but it has been worth it," shared Diane. "I think it's become my favorite Christmas gift each year and a highlight of our Christmas morning. Now, our four oldest grandchildren have started to contribute to the collection, too."

2005 General Conference talk. Later, President Henry B.

Eyring gave a talk entitled "O, Remember, Remember" in which he shared how he had started to write down a few things about what had happened every day in his life.

Hoop Dancers Continued from pg. 14

"We were all unified; we're just different tribes coming together."

As a child Terry didn't want to identify as being Native. When his family moved to his mother's Tulalip reservation, he experienced discrimination from both the Anglo and Native communities. When he watched a group of hoop dancers perform, he felt a transformation within him. "Natives were looked down upon, and I didn't want to be looked down upon, so I didn't want to be Native," he recalled. "When I saw this dance, I realized that it wasn't about the color of my skin, it

was about what was in my heart. ... That's when I realized that it was OK to be Native."

Within six months, he started dancing and performing. For Terry, the dancing and regalia tell a story of faith. "This is the creation of plants and animals; the dance tells about it. This is about the Great Spirit who made all things, the sun, the moon, the stars, the light, the world," Terry said. "This is my testimony that there is a creator. There is a great God. I do believe in God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ and in the Holy Ghost."

Hurricane Cleanup Continued from pg. 15

"Most of us learned to use a chainsaw, a skill I never knew I'd enjoy, but so helpful once we set to work on our own trees."

"I think the biggest lesson from this," Boston says, "is that so many beautiful things happen when people come together, and even though things like this are hard, they make our communities stronger and bring people closer to each other."

Following the storm, not only were the Rowleys mobile thanks to gassed up vehicles but they were able to charge their phones. Anna shared with her sister by phone that while

they didn't feel super prepared for the gravity of the storm, they ultimately knew where to find the light; in flashlights as well as candles they use for Christmas. They found comfort in the light, familiar scents. They found light in their community.

When, in the coming days, unexpected storms arrive at our doorstep and we feel unsettled, may we know where to find hope and light, as the Rowleys did, in our homes and community.

*Anna Rowley is the sister of the author, Emily Jex Boyle.

What's Cooking?

By The Arizona Beehive Magazine

FABULOUS FALAFEL & TASTY TZATZIKI

Falafel is a deep-fried ball or patty-shaped fritter of Egyptian origin, featuring in Middle Eastern cuisine, particularly Levantine cuisines. The key for keeping falafel from crumbling is cooking chilled dough in really hot oil. Dried chick peas must be soaked overnight. If using canned make sure you dry them really well. A salad spinner works great for this.

Tzatziki is a class of dip, soup, or sauce found in the cuisines of Southeastern Europe and West Asia. It is served as a cold appetizer, a side dish, and as a sauce for souvlaki and gyros sandwiches and other foods. Serve falafel on a bed of lettuce, sliced tomatoes and a pita.

TZATZIKI SAUCE INGREDIENTS:

- 2 English cucumbers, peeled, seeded, and finely chopped
- ¼ tsp salt
- 3 C Greek Yogurt
- 2 T Dillweed
- 1 tsp mint
- 1 T lemon juice or juice of one lemon
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 T olive oil
- Pepper to taste



TZATZIKI SAUCE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the chopped cucumbers in a medium bowl and toss with salt. Set aside for 15 minutes.
2. Place the cucumbers on paper towel and blot dry for several more minutes. Blot to remove any excess moisture.
3. Combine all ingredients together. Mix well to combine.
4. Adjust seasoning and refrigerate at least 1 hour for flavors to intensify.

Prep time: 30 mins for cucumbers; 5 mins to combine
Refrigerator time: 1 hr; Total time: 1 hr, 35 mins;
Servings: 3 cups

FALAFEL INGREDIENTS:

- 2 ½ C dried chickpeas
- 1 small onion, quartered
- 2 garlic cloves
- ½ C fresh cilantro leaves
- ½ C fresh parsley leaves
- ½ tsp ground cumin
- 4 T all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 1 ½ tsp kosher salt
- ⅓ C water
- Oil for deep frying

FALAFEL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Soak chickpeas overnight in a large bowl filled with water.
2. Drain and rinse chickpeas. Place them in a food processor fitted with a metal blade. Add the onion, garlic, cilantro and parsley and pulse until ingredients are combined and the texture is grainy.
3. In a separate bowl, mix together the cumin, flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Add the dry ingredients to the chickpea mixture and mix until well combined. (If adding any crumbled Feta cheese, as mentioned above, this is where to do it.) Gradually add the water and mix until reaching a thick, paste-like texture.
4. Heat the oil in a large skillet. Meanwhile, using your hands, form the chickpea mixture into balls, about the size of a Ping-Pong ball. Once the oil is hot (375°), place the balls in the oil, a few at a time, and cook for about 3–5 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels.

Prep time: 3 ½ hrs plus beans soaked overnight.
Cooking time: 8 - 10 minutes. Total time: 3 hrs, 40 mins;
Servings: 25 balls

Prep Your Missionary Continued from pg. 12

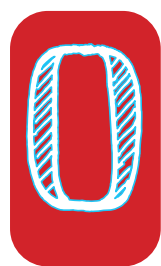
cloth, #10—round stone, #11—bay leaf, #12—nothing (representing the empty tomb). Make corresponding notes describing the significance of each Easter symbol.

- For their halfway milestone, reach out early to close friends and family and ask them to take a selfie holding up a “Happy Hump Day” sign. Make 4” x 6” prints of these and place in a photo book with sleeves or make into a poster. Add cookies!

Bring on the smiles with your missionary packages!

Comedy Corner

By Mark Randall



Our sons raised cocker spaniels. Once when we were selling puppies, two manly, bearded construction workers showed up to see the puppies. (They came in a macho, raised, 4X4 pickup truck.) We greeted them, and they gruffly said, “We want to see the dogs you have for sale.” We showed them to the backyard and the puppies came frolicking to them. Within minutes these two men were rolling in the grass talking baby talk to the puppies, acting like six-year-old boys! We all had a good laugh, and they each bought a puppy!

By Robin
Finlinson



JUSTSERVE

Peacemakers

United We Serve Builds Harmony In A Contentious World

On November 2nd, only three days before the finale of a contentious national election cycle, United We Serve brought together people of different political views, faiths and ages to serve members of our community. The purpose: to remind us to be peacemakers and not let our various views cause the dissolution of friendly relationships. Few things build harmony as successfully as serving together!

JustServe specialists in the Chandler area had invited nonprofits to participate by providing a booth with a fun hands-on project easy enough for families with children to do. Several attendees who heard about the event through church, school, social media, etc. brought friends along, and some came thanks to finding the attractive opportunity on justserve.org.

They could serve however they chose! Twenty-five booths represented local nonprofits, the school district and a civic agency. Projects included the following:

- making animal-shaped ice packs to comfort children in the hospital
- folding pocket-size American flags for military members serving overseas
- making beaded snowflakes & bracelets for refugees
- tying & stuffing pillows for children living in shelters
- making sleeping mats for the homeless
- coloring rocks & posters with messages to uplift those struggling with mental illness/depression
- writing cards for teachers, seniors, etc. to simply lift their spirits or wish them happy Thanksgiving or merry Christmas
- coloring pages to deco-



Tim Whitman, Secretary of the nonprofit Chandler Exchange Club, shows CC Cantabrana, Management Assistant of the City of Chandler's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Department, how to prepare and fold pocket-size American flags. They are given to military members actively serving overseas.

rate a Jewish community center's preschool for their holiday event

and wish Jewish children a happy Hanukkah



Jake Arrington adds some fun to the act of giving--pretending to drop his daughter, along with ramen noodles, into a donation box. Mike Dippre, Executive Operations Director of Matthew's Crossing Food Bank, happily receives the several food items they brought.

Photos by Robin Finlinson

VALLEY TEMPLE SCHEDULES

Additional Information:

- Appointments for proxy ordinances are encouraged. Patrons without appointments are also welcome, but may be asked to wait for an opportunity to participate. To schedule or modify a proxy appointment, visit your temple's information at <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/temples>
- Patrons are encouraged to bring their own temple clothing.
- Ordinances for family names must be done in proper sequence—baptism, confirmation, Melchizedek Priesthood ordination (males), initiatory, endowment, and then sealing. Please allow sufficient time to perform all the ordinances you wish to complete during your visit. For additional help and information, please call the temple.
- Please contact the temple for more information or if you have special circumstances or needs.
- Temple websites can be found by searching [churchofjesuschrist.org/temples](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/temples)

Gilbert Arizona Temple

3301 S. Greenfield Rd, Gilbert, AZ, 85297

(1) 480-822-5000

Services: Clothing rental available. No Cafeteria

Upcoming Closures 2025

Wednesday, 1 January 2025

Saturday, 5 April 2025

Monday, 7 April 2025 - Monday, 21 April 2025

Mesa Arizona Temple

101 S. LeSueur, Mesa, AZ, 85204

(1) 480-833-1211

Services: Clothing rental available. No Cafeteria

Upcoming Closures 2025

Wednesday, 1 January 2025

Monday, 24 February 2025 - Monday, 10 March 2025

Saturday, 5 April 2025

Tuesday, 8 April 2025 - Saturday, 19 April 2025

(Limited Operations)

Phoenix Arizona Temple

5220 W. Pinnacle Peak Road, Phoenix, AZ 85310

(1) 623-474-9500

Services: No clothing or cafeteria

Upcoming Closures 2025

Wednesday, 1 January 2025

Saturday, 5 April 2025

Monday, 19 May 2025 - Monday, 2 June 2025

Distribution Centers

Mesa 445 E Main Street (480) 969-2170

Gilbert 2894 S San Tan Village Pkwy (480) 926-3234

Phoenix 2919 W Agua Fria Fwy (480) 660-6100